A SHARP LETTER FROM THE SECRETTRY. TER LAND OFFICE COMMISSIONER TOO PRESUMPT-

UOUS FOR A SUBORDINATE. WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Secretary Lamar, late this mernoon, sent a letter to Commissioner Sparks sharply replying to a communication from him relative to the adjustment of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Raf'road land grants, and informing him, in conclusion, that either he or the Secretary must forthretire from the Department. The letter is in part as follows :

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. A WASHINGTON, Nev. 11, 1887. So the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Sign: I have just received a communication bearing this date (changed by erasure and interpolation from a previous date) addressed to me by you, and will try to answer it at once, as the matter to which it relates has already been unnecessarily delayed too long. Fortunately, I will be able to do this more conveniently because every point submitted has been the subject of reconsideration, having been presented through the columns of the press, whose enterprise put them in possession of these points before I was apprised that the decision referred to in your letter had incurred your disapproval and met with your displeasure.

I have neither the disposition to enter upon a polemic discussion with a subordinate, nor to engage with him at his insistence in a gladiatorial combat; especially no in a matter in which he has received my carefully matured instruction—a matter of pressing importance in the public administration of my public duties. In no other way can the functions of a great public department be successfully executed than for the chief to command and the subordinate to obey.

Your excuse for this extraordinary communication is that an argumentative report of yours as to the Missouri, Kanses and Texas Endiroad had not been prought to my attention, and that "the Omaha cases were, therefore, it seems, before you (me) without citation of authority in support of my (your) adjustment and without argument in behalf of the United States." In this last assumption you are in error, and the reverse of your statement is the fact.

You commence by advising me that my decision in the Omaha case—rendered, as you assert, without

ment and without argument in behalf of the United States." In this last assumption you are in error, and the reverse of your statement is the fact.

You commence by advising me that my decision in the Omata case—rendered, as you assert, without the benefit of your counsel—was in direct antagonism to any decision of the Department. You, however, immediately state in substance that prior to 1875 the Government rule of adjustment had been uniformly to accordance with the practice laid down by me. And the bentical report on the Missouri, Kansas and Texascase to which you refer me for your argument, is directed to the single point of the instinution of suits by the Government to reover lands conveyed more than twelve years since for precisely the character of ladds discussed in my decision of the Omaha case. The only answer you furnish me argainst this conceded practice of the Government is that no formal decision appears of record upon the subject in your office. Am I to understand that you do not consider the uniform practice of the Land Department for twenty five years as having the force and effect of a decis on, unless the principles involved have been specifically controvered by some one, and freely submitted for discussion?

would rely for present authority upon an overrific obtter in a decision, and upon the executive action based thereon. I did not deem specific discussion there meessary in my former opinion, although all decisions applicable to the questions before me habeen carefully examined and fully considered by me DISCUSSION BENEATH HIS DIGNITY.

sion of the Barney case. My construction of it has already been communicated to you. You reply makes no impression upon me. Reduced to its essentials, it consists of but two points. . . It is immaterial to me which of these points you may be pleased to rely upon. . As you have quoted largely from the decision itself to support your opinion, I do not deem it nece say to say a word. Your quotation from the decision sufficiently answer your opinion.

One word as to your complaint that my 6maha decision proceeds to state a point "I (you have not presented and an argument I (you) have nof made. When the 6maha case came before me it was accompanied not only with your report, which, as you truly state, contained no argument whatever in its support, but also with other papers and documents for my information. Amongst these brought before me at my own request, was the opinior of the Assistan Attainey-General in this Department, in which the distinction to which you refer was elaborately argued and finisted upon.

Railroad Company vs. the State et al.

Structions were ever given you. You were
it to report to me an adjustment of the grant
idance with the principles announced by me
decision. The said decision of the Circuit
was referred to only as being a persuasive
ty of a very high order,
content with elaborate criticism of every point
content with elaborate criticism of ev

7, 1887, and you did not even pretered to have misunderstood the meaning of my instructions.
You conclude your paper with another elaborate
criticism of my decision upon the branch line of the
Omaha road. You claim gross error on my part in
allowing indensity for reservations, putting your
argument upon the provise to the granting act under
consideration by me. It seems, however, to have
escaped your attention that it was neither my purpose
nor my duty in communicating to you my construction of this grant to assume the task of convincing you
of the correctness of these instructions, by an elaborate citation of all decided cases applicable to the subject. I had conceived it to be my duly as the head
of this Department, and having strictly in view my
oath of office to direct you as to what duties I required
your duty under the same obligations to obey my
instructions or withdraw yourself from the duty of
so doing in the only way recognized under the laws
and usages of public life in civilized countries: especially so when I was my set but acting in direct
upon me the exclusive duty of causing these grants
to be adjusted.

It therefore only remains for me on this point to

upon me the exclusive duty of causing these grants to be adjusted.

It therefore only remains for me on this point to dispose of your elementary citations of legal maxims by informing you that they are, in my opinion, en-tirely irrelevant.

ONE OR THE OTHER MUST GO. However we may differ in our construction of the staintes, or of decided cases, and whatever variance may exist in our conceptions of our public duties. I am constrained to say to you that there is obviously one point upon which we are in thorough accord.

Upon this point you have succeeded in the communi-Upon this point you have succeeded in the communication before me in riveting on my mind a protound conviction. The practical effect of your present course, is that you cannot execute my orders, and follow my instructions, and co-operate in my administration without surrendering opinions which should be conscientiously entertained with reference to titally important interests. I am as sincere as you can be in the personnel conviction that my instructions to you are in exact accordance with the law of Congress, in line with the occisions of the courts, and in support of the supremacy of law and its inviolability. It is impossible for me in contravention of my own opinions, arrived at after long and artious study to acreaded them to you. Under these circumstances, it is due to orderly and decourse administration of the Government, to important public interest, and the common cause confided in part to our hands by the President, and to the personal regard that we should both current and to the personal regard that we should both current on the form of the forcer who will conform his administration of the laters who will aminister his bureau in harmony of spirit and concert of action with the chief of the Department and without putting tim to the necessity of more decisive action on his part. This alternative I shall submit to the President at the same time that this 1 aper shall be handed to you. Very Respectfully,

S same time that Very Respectfully. Very Respectfully. Q. C. LAMAR. Sectionary. CRITICISMS FROM ENGINEER MELVILLE THE ARCHIC HERO SCORES THE PRESENT METHODS

Engineer-in-thirf of the Navy states among other things that all the Navy Yards are defective in their general arrangements. The shors are spread about too much, and are not near enough to the water front to allow material to be han bed promptly. There is too much routine and red cape connected with Navy Yard management for the proper fransaction of bustbess. The a littary features are made more promi-ment than the building and repairing of ships and machinery, and work is thereby delayed and its cost

on new boilers to some ship, although the boilers may not eventually be put into that particular vessel. chance is thereby given for ma contents to raise a hue and cry about wasteful Naval methods.

number of engineer officers; there being already an insufficient number to properly perform the duties. The rejuction should be promptly stopped and the number of passed assistant engineers restored to the former number of 100. Better provision should be made for the education of engineers for the service. The present system of education at the Naval Academy which seeks to make jacks-of-all-trades of the students, is not what is needed. At the end of the second Fear's course of study the cadets should be divided into midshipmen and cades engineers and all those hot needed to fill vacancies to be dropped from the service to make way for a new lot from which to

LAMAR OR SPARKS MUST GO. of putting engineer graduates of the Naval Academy on an equal footing with their classmates of the line by making all graduates take relative rank according order of merit at the date of graduation, instead of the engineers ranking after the line as at present

The report says the duties of engineers on board ship are often mistreterpreted by commanding officers On some ships the engineers are required to stand watch day and night when the machinery is not run ning and there is nothing to require their attention

watch day and night when the machinery is not running and there is nothing to require their altention. This standing of watches over a "mass of cod castiron" is non-ensical. Mr. Nelville remarks that "the face that an officer is not doing his rull share of duty when he is not as uncomfortable as it is possible to make bim is to, prevaient to the service." The number of men in the engineers' force on board of all except the older vessels is entirely too small and ever the small number that is sllowed are equired to spend more time drilling on deck than in working in the engine room.

The class of machinist nd other petty officers in the service b not of as high a standard as it should be, principally because mechanics who can earn good wages on shore can not be temped to go to sea on account of the treatment accorded them on board ship. More privileges should be allowed the higher grades of jedly officers, so as to induce better men to calle. In conclusion the report says:

"There is too much dilicitanteism in the Navy, Many officers pay a great deal more attention to the specialities of others than they do to their own, with the result that they become proficent in neither. Four homeans furnish steam machinery to ships, while the officers of only one hursard are specifilly educated and trained in the design and manipulation of machinery. In the interest of economy, harmony, and efficiency this amateur engineering shoulds sopped at once, and all machinery he placed under the care of the engineer, while the other own professions."

INSPECTOR-GENERAL BAIRD'S REPORT.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL BAIRD'S REPORT. WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.-Inspector-General Baird in his annual report to the Secretary of War recommends that much time is allotted to target practice to permit proper instruction in all other important matters, and he re competition with soldiers. It is unfair to the soldier and is destructive of disciplise. Objections to sait perk continue, but there is no alternative, unless the Secretary of War should exclude it from the ration to be issued only when called for in such amounts as might be required. Demand for the issue of petators and onlone becomes more frequent. The Inspector-ticeoral, while approxing the detail of army officers to civil institutions, holds that every officer so detailed has been commissioned to fill an office supposed to be necessary to the military establishment, and his prolonged absence indicates that the office is not a necessary one. He thinks that every officer should be in the place to which his commission assigns him and when it becomes distasteful to him he ought to retire.

COMPLAINTS TO THE COMMISSION.

Washington, Nov. 11.—The Board of Trade of Lineain, Neb., makes a complaint to the Interstate Commission against the Missouri Pacific Rathway, charging that its rates from St. Louis to Lincoln are unjustly and un-reasonably high and that as compared with certain other rates an unjust discrimination is made against Lincoln. It makes a similar complaint against the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Raticoad Company with respect to the rates from thicago to Lincoln.

Plummer, Perry & Co., of Lincoln, Neb., complain that he Union Pacific Railroad Company, having received a the t frion Pacific Railroad company, naving received consignment of sugar at San Francisco for Lincoln, refused to hand it direct to its destination, but first took it to Omaha and rebilled it to Lincoln, which procedure caused an extra charge of fiftees conts a hundred for Transportation. Complainants aver that the consignment was hauled seventy seven miles further than was reces-

The New-Orleans Cotton Exchange complains that the The New-Orieans Collon Exchange complains that the New-Orieans, Cincinnati and Texas Pacific Rairoad Company transports cotton from Meridian, Miss., to flew ton and Lowell, Mass., for So of a cent per tan per mile, while it charges 4 cents per ton per nulle from Meridian to New-Orieans. It charges that like alleged discriminations are made on cotton from Shreveport and Mon-

Washington, Nov. 11.—It is stated at the Treasury Department that the accounts of the New-York Emigration Commissioners are in process of adjusment by the accounting officers, and that the delay in their settle ment is due mainly to the failure of the Linigration commissioners to supply the information requested in principal points of dispute between the Commissioners and the Department is said to be with regard to the disnotine Department's said to be with regard to the dis-position of money realized from the sale or rental of certain privileges under control of the Commissioners. It is understool that Secretary Fairchild will devote a chapter of his annual report to the consideration of the immigrant question and that he will recommend that the entire management of immigration affairs at the different ports be placed in the hands of officers of the general Government.

ESTIMATES FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE. Washington, Nov. 11.—The Lighthious Board has made estimates of appropriations for the next discal year aggregating \$2,167,500. Special estimates are made for a light on Great Duck Island, Me., \$10,000; for a light on Green Island, Me., \$12,000; for a light on Green Island, Me., \$12,000; for a light por the sandy Hook station, \$60,000, and for a light midway between Barnegat and Navosink, N. J., \$20,000.

ARMY AND NAVY INTELLIGENCE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Captain J. G. Knight, Corps of Engineers, has been relieved from duty at Wilet's Point.

THE EXCUSE OF TAKING LIQUOR FOR MEDICINAL

SITIES-SOME AUCTIONNERS OBJECT.
The President of the Real Estate Exchange, in pursuance of a resolution passed at the last Board meeting. yesterday appointed the following committee to nominate a directors' ticket for the ensuing election on the 12th of December next. W. F. Redmond (A. H. Muller & Son), W. C. Schermerhorn, Samuel F. Jayne, Edward Oppenhelmer and Hall J. How. The above committee embraces representatives of all the various interests centred in downs, referred to in yesterday's TRIBUSE, is to be con- sufferings. sidered next week, upon the majority and minority re-ports of the committee appointed by the Board. The report of Edward Hirsh, the chairman of the committee, after briefly tracing the origin of the present scale, points out that it is inadequate to present necessities and enetenth of 1 per cent en all property above \$5,000 should be charged in lieu of the present fees. The report also points out that the system of charging the buyer with fees and knock-downs is a mistake and should be and ished. The proposed revision of the scale would increase the returns of the Auction Room to \$30,000 per

crease the returns of the Auction Room to \$30,000 per sum and eachie the Exchange to pay a dividend of 5 per seat, besides acting aside a reasonable sum toward paying off the mortgage debt. The report also peints out that the proposed alteration would militate against shim sales and discourage those owners who do not put their property up in rood faith.

Another report has been made, which is not yet filed, by George H. root and R. V. Harnett. While admitting that the acade may be revised they think that the matter ought to be left entirely to the anctioners. The another has been exchange and the auctioneers should be allowed to manage their even affairs. In all preliability the matter will be reasonably arranged before the next election. A meeting of the auctioneers is to be hold on Taesday next, at Sociock, in the Board Room, to select a committee of the Board on the subject.

TALE ABOUT THE NEW CATHEDRAL.

TALE ABOUT THE NEW CATHEDRAL.
Stephen P. Nash, who has been appointed counsel to the Cathedral Board of Trustees, said yesterday that no work could be done on the new site at One-hundred and-tenth-at. One hundred and-thirteenth-st., Morningside

Drive and Tenth-ave, until a bill had been passed by the Legislature closing One-hundred and eleventh and Onehundred and twelfth sts., between 9th and 10th aves. The streets have an existence only on paper, the blaff having never been out through. Still legal permission to close them permanently had to be obtained. The contract for the transfer of the Leake and Watta Orphan House plot has been signed by Bishop Potter, president of the Board of Cathedral Trustees, and the Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix, president of the Asylum Board.

There are still eight subscription books out from which no returns have been made to the treasurer of the Cathedral Fund. Mr. Auchmuty has turned ever all the accounts to the new treasurer. J. Pierpost Morgan. Mr. Morgan hopes to make a complete report on January 1. There will be no trouble, he says, in meeting the first payment of \$350,000 on the new site. George McCulloca Miller, the secretary of the Beard, is still in Alabama. He will have general charge of the affairs of the Cathedral when he returns.

MR. FRANCKLYN FILES A SHORT ANSWER. The answer of the defence to the charges made in the case of Sir Pache Cunard against C. G. Francklyn was served on the plaintiff's attorneys yesterday.

Francklyn's attorney, John Netman, of No. 54 Wall-st, said in the afterneon that he did not think it necessary or advisable to make the document public. The answer was short, he added, covering only two or three typeswritten pages, and it made no detailed statements in fact, none of any kind other than Mr. Franckijn had himself airendy made through the papers.

ANNUAL DINNER OF COLUMBIA'S ALUMNI. It was decided yesterday that the annual dinner of the Alumni of Columbia Cellege shall be held at the Hotel Bruns wick on Friday evening, December 16. Frederic R. Condett-the president of the association, will preside and representative Harvard, Yale and Princetes graduates will be presentSALE OF A FINE LAW LIBRARY.

COSTLY REPORTS, CASES AND TEXT BOOKS A. J. VANDERPORL'S COLLECTION TO BE OFFERED

AT AUCTION-SOME RARE VOLUMES. The law library of the late Aaron J. Vanderpoel wiff be sold on the first three evenings of next week at the sale rooms of Messrs. Bangs & Co., Nos. 739-741 Broad-The sale will attract the attention not only of the large circle of Mr. Vanderpoel's friends, but also of all who are interested in the collection of legal libraries of real worth. Mr. Vanderpoel was a good deal more than a first-class lawyer, much as the term implies; he was a scholar of wide general attainments and liberal tastes. At the same time he believed that a lawyer should be thoroughly equipped with the tools of his profession and he therefore made the collection of an ample law library a matter of especial importance. The result was the getting together of one of the best private law

libraries in the country.

A considerable portion of the older and rarer books came into his possession from former lawyers of his own or of his wife's family. But a substantial part was purchased by Mr. Vanderpool individually for actual use. Like many other distinguished advocates, by the case and proficiency with which he conficted causes in the courtroom, he left the impression upon many that he was aan of brilliant parts but not a hard worker. His personal friends knew that this was not the fact. He had a natural capacity for hard work and a liking for it. His many successes were chiefly due to the hours of laborious research spent in his law library.

The collection certainly is as complete as any but the most extraordinary exigencies of the most active lawyer

could require. Mr. Van lerpoel was not content with the officers travelling on inspection duty be allowed 10 cents | Middle States; but he collected the reports of the highest a mile for each mile actually travelled. Too many orders | courts of Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, are issued, the report says, not always emanating from the same source. In the opinion of General Baird too sin and several other of the Western and Southern States. The collection of United States reports is complete. There are about 500 volumes of the various mends that officers be prehibited from entering into rifle | English reports, some of which are rare and exceedingly competition with soldiers. It is unfair to the valuable. The complete set of the London Law Journal from the beginning of the publication in 1823 to June of the present year, in 191 volumes, is an interesting part of the English publications. The Irish reports, number ng about 150 volumes, are also worthy of notice. The even more full. It would be difficult to name any publication of considerable worth that has appeared within the last thirty years that has not a place on Mt. Vanderpoel's shelves. To many of these lapse of time and other causes have given an especial value. Among these general works may be mentoned Hoffman's Estate and Righ's of the Corporation of the City of Perfect and Approved Presidents" (1614), and Blount's gold. It is likely that the ancient inhabitants practically exhausted the supply, and the images of this meta-New-York statutes and constitutions are noteworthy. Is from the Ural Mountains. The professor said:

New York statutes and constitutions are noteworthy.

Mr. Vanderpoel appears to have had a liking for getting together the records of celebrated trials. There are more than fifty of these.

But there are two genuine curiosities in the library, by which Mr. Vanderpoel set great slore and the possession of which he re carded with pride. One of them is a copy of the first book published in New York. Only six copies are known to be extant, and five of them are in the possession of public institutions. This is, perhaps, the most perfect copy of the six. The title page reals:

"The Laws and Acts of the General Assembly for their Aljestics" Province of New York, as they were chacted in divers sessions, the first of which began April the 9th, in divers sessions, the first of which began April the 9th. be feared, and he saw no danger of financial disaster Auno Domini 1921. At New York, Printer and Soil by
William Bradford, Printer to their Majesties, King William Bradford, Printer to their Majesties, King William and Queen Mary, 1801. The original binding put not the volume by Bradford still remains in excellent condition, and within its covers

The secretary read a paper by Professor S. P. Lanciey on "The Temperature of the Moon," showing that the temperature of the sun-lit surface was much lower than has been supposed, being probably not over 50 degrees. Anno Lionini 1691. At New York, Printed and Sold by from either over or under production of gold or silver. are also included various other laws passed be contigrade, tween 1603 and 1705. One of the most interesting Professor pertions of the contents is the "Dongan Charter,"
promulgated by Governor Dongan in tosa. An old copy

DEP SITS OF COAL IN THIS COUNTRY. of this charter, separate from the Montgomery Char er of 1730, which substantially re-enacted it, is difficult to capy of this book was sold in less for \$1,000, but it was in many respects inferior to the Vanderpool copy. This volume was handed down to Mrs. Vanderpool from her grandfather, Peter Van scharck, whose antegraph appears on the title page. Upon the same page is also the autograph of Major Bickley, once Attorney General of the West lepends on the united states and especially in wastern page of the West lepends on the united states and especially in western page of the West lepends on the united states and especially in the autograph of Major Bickley, once Attorney General of the West lepends on the united states and especially in the winter state of the West lepends on the united states and especially in the winter state of the West lepends on the united states and especially in the winter state of the West lepends on the united states and especially in the winter state of the West lepends on the united states and especially in the winter state of the West lepends on the united states and especially in the winter state of the West lepends on the united states are appropriated on June 1, 1880, by a Protessant Episopal clear principle on June 1, 1880, by a Protessant Episopal clear principle on June 1, 1880, by a Protessant Episopal contained on absolute divorce in the Court of The Courson Fleas.

Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later they met by chance in Newark, and Five years later

of the Colony.

The other curiosity is a large folio volum the autographs and pertraits of Logdsh Lord Chancel-lors, Chief Justices, Judges, etc. The autograph letters of these eminent jurists number 130, and there are more than 200 copper and steel portraits. Some of these engravings are exceedingly rare and nearly all are of unusual merit. The volume evidently represents not a little money and a vast amount of patient labor on the part of the collector.

ENCOURAGING THE POLICE TO DRINK.

N. Y., and detailed as instructor of the infantry and cavalry sensed at Fort Leavenworth. The leave of absence granted taptain W. S. McCookey, 20th Infantry, has been extended three months. First Lieutenant John 19 Peller, Jr., 1st Artilliery, and second Lieutenants C. F. Parker, 2d Artilliery, and second Lieutenants C. F. Parker, 2d Artilliery, and a R. Andrews, 5th Artilliery, and second Lieutenants C. F. Ensign J. J. Blandin has been detached from the Hydrographic Office, lialtimore, and ordered to the Trensten. Ensign J. J. Blandin has been detached from the Hydrographic Office, lialtimore, and ordered to the Trensten. Ensign J. J. Blandin has been detached from the Hydrographic Office, lialtimore, and ordered to the Trensten. Ensign J. J. Blandin has been detached from the Hydrographic Office, lialtimore, and ordered to the Trensten. Ensign J. J. Blandin has been detached from the Hydrographic Office, lialtimore, and ordered to the Trensten. Ensign J. J. Blandin has been detached from the Hydrographic Office, lialtimore, and ordered to the Trensten. Ensign J. J. Blandin has been detached from the Control of the courted distinguished divides of the claim of the clai at No. 24 Greenwich ave. that he was afraid to go to the pastors and members in the same edificaln the afternoon

Inspector Williams was complained against Police man Masterson, of the Eldedge street squad. He said he found Masterson drank at No. 242 Grandet, on the afternoon of October 14. Masterson was suspended by the Inspector at the time. Yesterday Masterson made the claim that his apparent drunkeness was caused by medicine that his apparent to the role and the core a sudden attack of times. Decision was reserved in both cases, but if the Police Commissioners at here to the rule about rases of interaction, Gibson and Masterson will be dismissed. here to the rule about cases of intoxication, Gib-

Faward E. Ridder, acting manager of Dockstader's, lesses his engagement at that house on Wednesday, No.

A troupe of performing moniceys will be included in the attractions. There are ten of them, and they have been trained to perform some remarkable feats. A performing bear controlled by a young woman is one of the features

rehearse together under Mr. Gillette's personal direction. The Gillette dramatization will have some new comedy

The South Ferry Railroad Company failed to pay the half-yearly interest due upon its bonds on May 1 and November 1. The trustee of these bonds, in accordance with the terms of the mortgage given to

the trustee, has moved to have the mortgage fore-

the trustee, has moved to have the mortgage fore-closed and the road sold. I do not think there will be an application for a receiver. It would hardly be worth while.

A reporter who visited the "offices" of the com-pany at No. 20 whitehall st. yesterday found the blacksmith in charge. In addition to his own duties he was performing those of hostier and acting super-intendent. He said that business was not very good.

SCIENTIFIC PAPERS READ.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY MEETING ENDS. MANY TOPICS DISCUSSED BY WELL-KNOWN AUTHOR-

ITIES-MEMBERS WHO HAVE DIED. The closing session of the National Academy of Sciences, which was held yesterday at Columbia College, was perhaps the most interesting of the series that has occupied the greater part of the week. Unfortunately, in view of this fact, the attendance was smaller than on any of the previous days, as several of the members had accepted an invitation from Professor Edison to visit Menlo Park.

The session opened with an interesting paper by Professor W. P. Trowbridge on "A Discovery Recently Made in Connection with the Flight of Birds."

CAN BIRDS SLREP ON THE WING! The professor said that it had always puzzled him to see how the muscular action necessary to keep birds on the wing so long as they often remain could be possible, and he then explained the recent discovery, which is that birds of prey and some others have the power to lock securely together those parts of the wing holding the extended feathers and corresponding to the fingers of the human hand. The action of the air on the wing in this condition extends the elbow, which is prevented from opening too far by a cartilage, and the wings may no museum action whatever on the part of the bird. While resting in this way the bird cannot rise, in a still atmosphere, but if there be a horizontal current it may dency downward, and so gain a momentum by which, with a slight change of direction, it may rise to so x tent, still without muscular action of the wings. The professor also believed it quite possible for a bird to leep on the wing.

In discussing this paper Professor J. S. Newberry said that he had once shot a bird which came slowly to the ground as if still flying, but reached it dead, lieved that it had died high in the air, but he had never been able to account for the manner of its descent till

been able to account for the manner of its descent till now, when he for dan explanation in the statement of Professor Trowbridge.

REACHING THE LIMIT OF GOLD PRODUCTION.

Professor Newborry next read a paper on "The Future of Gold and Silver Production." Beginning with gold, he said that he had spent a part of nearly every summer since 1855 among the mines of the West, and he believed that the production of the United States was past its maximum. The present annual production amounts to \$30,000,000. In the northern parts of the mountains of the West there is probably gold, and it may be hoped that a considerable contribution to the gold of the world will be made from this region. There are no important deposits of gold in Mexico. The western coast of South America, rich in silver, is poor in gold. It is likely that the ancient inhabitants practically exhausted the supply, and the images of this metal which they buried with the dead have been sought with some success. The product of Europe is about New York (both first and second editons), "Cooke on the Law of Defamation," "Boke of Entries containing etn coast of South America, rich in silver, is poor in pamphlots covering matters of great historic and legal interest. The documents embracing each of the New-York Constitutional Conventions and volumes of all the \$50,000,000 annually, more than three fourths of which

find except in the best historical historica

the next faceting will be held in Wash

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF METHODISM.

TO CELEBRATE THE CENTENNIAL OF THAT DE

at No. 24 Greenwich ave. that he was afraid to go to the police station.

Francis Stewart, a negro, exchanged coats with Gibson to help him conceal his identity, and then took Gibson to help him conceal his identity, and then took Gibson to help him conceal his identity, and then took Gibson to help him conceal his identity, and then took Gibson to help him conceal his identity, and then took Gibson to help him conceal his identity, and then took Gibson to help him conceal his identity, and then took Gibson to help him conceal his identity, and then took granted for white many and took autrendered it with a grantation. A sergent went in search of Gibson and took into the Charles Street Station at 4 elock on the morning of October 25. Gibson vesterday desied that he was drunk when he changed coats with the serve and he could not remember having made the exchange. He had cramps in the stomach, he said, and took some medicine, including blackberry branch, to relieve his sufferings.

Inspector Williams was complainant against Policeman Masterson with the factorion of October 14. Masterson was suspended by the Inspector at the time Yestorion Masterson and take of Gibson and take to cure a sudden attack of Ginesa. Decision was researed in both cases, but if the Police Commissioners adhere to the rule about cases of intoxication, Gibson and Wasterson will be dismissed. · and evening to morrow and on Monday night. Presiding

FINED FOR USING DR. HAMMONES NAME.

Dr. W. A. Hammond appeared against Dr. Henry
Kane and John F. Phillips, an advertising agent, in a
special session of the Tombs Police Court yesterday.
The complaint, which was brought by Dr. Hammond a
few days ago, charges Kane, who is the head of a
patent medicine firm, with publishing as an advertise
ment a portion of a lecture by Dr. Hammond on the
"Use and Alpuse of the Brain," and supplementing the "Use and Abuse of the Brain," and supplementing the extract with a statement in which the lecturer was made to recommend the firm's medicines. Kane, through his counsel, "Abet Hummel, pleaded guilty, Mr. Hummel giving with the plea an explanation that the quoted portion of Dr. Hammoni's letter had been sent to the newspapers marked off from the other part of the advertisement by quotations, and that the newspaper people had dropped them out, and so made the ex Surgoon General seem to puff the mostrum. This plausible explanation, which one would have thought, would have carried conviction to the judge only carried conviction to Kane, and he was fined \$250. Dr. Hammond was not satisfied with this result, and remarked that the case seemed to have been disposed of in a rether of hand way. He had, he said, actually seen the objectionable advertisement appear again in a morning paper, with his name slightly altered in the spelling. Phillips, through his counsel, G. F. Barlow, asked for an adjournment for one week, which was granted.

secure them, has brought a suit in the Supreme Court to accomplish those purposes. Edward Lauterbach, lowed by that of "The Leader" yesterday, has led counsel for the railroad company, said yesterday that many to suppose that the entire Labor movement was the road (which runs from South Ferry to Vesey and Church sts.), had been doing little business of late, and that Henry Hart, the president, had for two years or more been paying the 7 per cent laterest upon the bonds out of his own pocket.

"This proceeding," said Mr. Lauterbach, "became monotomous to Mr. Hart, and he storned having in advocate as earnestly as ever the doctrines for preach. that he may take a trip to Europe. Pressing invita-tions to lecture in Great Britain have been coming to tions to lecture in Great Britain have been coming to him lately, and he is now seriously considering the advisability of accepting some of them. Many of the Labor leaders, however, are rather against his going. James Redpath said yesterday: "We need him here more than they do in England, Ireland or Scotland. They are compactly organized there already, and are far ahead of our Labor party in many respects. Still a short trip might do the Doctor good. It rests with himself entirely."

The work of excavating for the new building of the Rutgers Prosbyterian Claurch was begin yesterday. Anti-saloon Republican League was held yesterday. Anti-saloon Republican Hewitt ent a letter to

will be discusted and the plan of campaign for next year outlined.

HIRING THE GRANT FUNERAL HORSES. GEN. ASPINWALL ORDERED THEM FOR THE GOVERN-

MENT, BUT HIS ESTATE PAYS THE BILL. A few days before the funeral of General Grant Charles W. Dickel & Co., proprietors of the riding academy in West Fifty-sixth-st., received from General Lloyd Aspinwall the following note:

Aspinwall the following note:

Obsequice of General Grant, Offices of the Aides to the General Commanding, Room 26, Federal Building, New-York City, August 5, 1885.

Messrs, C. W. Dirkkit, & Co., 128 West Fifty-sixth-st.

You will please retain for use of the staff on the occasion of the funeral of General Grant thirty sive borses. Yours truly,

LLOYD Assistant, Brigadier-General and Senior Aide.

The order was complied with and the horses were used

on the parade. A bill for \$350 was rendered afterward to General Aspin wall. He objected to certain items and the bill was cut down to \$280 and in this form was in dorsed "Approved" by General Aspinwall. When he died, on September 4, 1886, it had not been paid. Lloyd Aspinwall, the son and executor of the General, refused to pay the bill, claiming that the Government had assumed the payment of all the expenses of the funeral.

Dickel & Co. sued the executor for the amount of the bill and the case was tried yesterday before Chief Judge Sedgwick and a jury in the Superior Court. After the testimony for the plaintiff had been presented a motion to dismiss the complaint, on the ground that General Assinwall acted as agent of the Government in giving the order, was denied.

The Judge heid that General's Aspinwall's position, as senior aids to General Hancock for the occasion of the Grant Obsequies, did not give him authority to furnish supplies. Testimony was offered to show that some of the horses were net serviceable, but this was ruled out, as the bill had been reduced on this account. No further testiment for the decade was offered, and the jury promptly found a vertilet for the plaintiffs for \$314.30, the full amount, with interest. Aspinwall, the son and executor of the General, refused

RAPID TRANSIT A PUBLIC NECESSITY.

A decision was handed down in the Supreme Court by Judge Brown yesterday, in regard to the suits for injunctions to restrain the Union Elevated Company from building its structure in Fifth ave., Brooklyn. Pratt last month denied an injunction pending trial, but Judge Brown holds that the company has invaded the

GRAVE DOUBTS EXPRESSED BY A JUDGE. Justice Ingraham y sterilay decided adversely to the plaintiff the suft of Mrs. Maria G. Robbins against Mrs. plaintiff the suit of Mis. Maria G. Robbins, assessed Amelia S. Donn, the wife of N. Gano Dunn, a lawyer, which was tried before him in the Supreme Court Special Term last spring. Mrs. Robbins asked the Court to set asked the transfer by Mrs. Dunn to the sister of the latter of a house and lot at the northwest corner of Hudson and West Twelfth sts. She claimed that she had purchased

TWICE DIVORCED FROM THE SAME HUSBAND. Professor Theodore Gill presented "A Comparison of Antipodal Pagas."

DEPOSITS OF COAL IN THIS COUNTRY.

10: A Hall gave a discussion "On the Constant of Aberration," showing the methods and results of five who is now fifteen years old. On December 27, 1881,

BITS OF LEGAL NEWS.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

WASHINGTON, NOV. IL.—The following business was transacted in the United States Supreme Court to day.

No. its.—The schooner "Maggie J. Smith," etc., appellants, against Sanned if Walker and others, appellants, against R. O. Dun and others, etc. Argument concluded by John H. Thomas for the achiever. "Maggie J. Smith," etc.

No. 66: The New York, Lake 17th and Western Raffread Compact, plantiffs in error against George R. Madison, Argument by J. E. Ingersoil for the plantiff in error, and by Edwards Meyer for the defendant in error.

No. 67: Pilar Garma de Sabartego and others, plantiff in error gainst Mary A. Mayer-wick and others. Argument begun by W. Hallett Phillips for plantiffs in error.

Adjourned until Monday.

NO PUBLIC REQUESTS IN MR. CORNELE'S WILL The will of John B. Cornell, head of the firm of J. B. & J. M. Cornell, iron manufacturers, was filed yesterday with Probate Clerk, Charles II. Beckett. It is dated
December 18, 1886, and divides his property among his
December 18, 1886, and divides his property among his
was that he had been forced to complain to the Governfamily and relatives. In it be says:

Having enjoyed, during my life, the privilege of con-tributing to various religious, charitable and educational objects, I do not consider myself free, in disposing of my estate by will, to make further contributions. All his household effects, plate, pictures and library are left to his wife, Minnie R. S. Cornell, who is made executify, his sons, John M. and Harry M. Cornell, being aptrix, his sons, John M. and Harry M. Cornell, being appointed executors. To his wife he also gives \$70,000 and eight policies of life insurance. Other bequests are as follows: To his sister, Mrs. Flizabeth Mott, \$2,000 a year; to his sister milaw, Mrs. Charity Cornell, an annuity "equal to that now received by her from the firm of J. H. & J. M. Cornell"; to George W. Debevoise, son of his former wife, \$6,000; to his miscs, Mrs. Sarah Jones, \$2,000; to Mary V. McClelland of Foughkeepole, \$5,000; to his nice, Mary Wilson, \$5,000; to Hizabeth Mett and Harriet E. Cornell, \$2,000 cach; to Lifza Seasomb, \$2,000; to his private socretary, Thomas Cracker, \$5,000; to his private socretary, Thomas Cracker, \$5,000; to his wife's sister, Margaret G. Sherman, \$5,000; to his wife's sister, Margaret G. Sherman, \$5,000; to Mary E. Horrower of Albany, \$2,500. The residuary estate goes to his wife and children.

DEATH OF ANOTHER CENTENARIAN. Peter Duffy, an Irishman, who had lived fifty years in this city and claimed to be one hundred years old, died suddenly in his home, No. 396 Seventh-ave., yesterday. He was a bachelor and lived with his married niece. He was a backelor and lived with his married nices.

Bixteen years ago, when he was tending a furnace, he fell and broke his tip, and since then had not done any work. It is a tradition in Dufty's family that he and his cousin, now living in Ireland, were born on the same day one hundred years ago. Dufty used to say that he was a grown man working in the fields when the Irish soldiers returned after the battle of Waterloo. A wake over his body was well attended last evening.

The business failures throughout the country in the past week, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co., of the Morcantile Agency, numbered 195 for the United States and twenty-two for Canada, a total of 2 7, against 245 last week, and 231 in the corresponding week last year. In their weekly review of traite Messrs. Dun & Co. say

their weekly review of trade Messrs. Dun & Co. say among other things:

Elections and the Anarchists have diverted attention somewhat during the week but an advance in prices has been started by the Government crop reports, made public on Thursday, and speculative operations since have been large. Stocks seemed stronger until thursday when accounts of probably tradelliness of the German Crown Prince caused sharp reaction in Berlin and other Continental markets, and some selling here on foreign account, but the markets was again stronger Friday. The reasoning that American securities will ultimately be more in demand shroad if the struction on the Continent becomes unsettled or warlied, needs to be taken with some allowance, the great body of such securities now held abroad in part by persons who will resilize at the first larium or when active apsculation or demand for money at home springs up, may at any time be diminished by sales. The approach of a season of Congress, with the usual disquicting projects and agitations, is not to be overlooked.

QUIZZING TELEPHONE MEN.

THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE AT WORK. TAKING UP THE AFFAIRS OF THE NEW-YORK AND

PENNSYLVANIA COMPANY. The Assembly Committee investigating the telephone companies of this State gave its time yester day to an examination of the New-York and Pennsylvania Telephone and Telegraph Company. The territory of this corporation embraced Broome, Tioga. Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, Alleghany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties in this State, and Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga, Potter, McKean, Warren, Erie and Crawford counties in Pennsylvania. The president is C. F. Cutler, who is also president of the Staten Island Telephone Company. Joel C. Clark is secretary and treasurer of both companies also. The New-York and Pennsylvania Company, Mr. Clark

stock of \$50,000, raised the next day to \$1,000,000. The Bell Telephone Company was represented by two directors, and it held \$350,000 in stock, of which onehalf was subsequently surrendered. Of the rest of the stock \$135,000 was sold for a cash fund, and \$515,000 stock was issued for the property of existing companies in Binghamton, Jamestown, Dunkirk and Ithaca in this State, and in Warren and Bradford in Pennsylvania. The number of stations bought was 1,337. The new company took possession on November 1, 1883. The real value of all the tangible property Mr. Clark esti-mated at \$125,000. One-half of the capital stock was surrendered in September, 1886, with the understanding hat the Beil company should have 35 per cent of addi tional stock issued. Since then 350 shares had been

The company had in July last, Mr. Clark continued, 2,319 exchange stations and 296 toll stations, with a mileage of toll lines of 1,792, with 841 additional miles. The gross earnings to July last were \$598,510 55. The construction expenses were \$215,082 60, of which \$138,076 30 had been puld out in the first fourteen months of the company's existence. The total not earnings were \$140,201 61. The dividends for the period were \$101,000 leaving a surplus of \$39,201 64, which was applied to construction. The only indebtedness was on account current. The American Bell Company, the witness said, received 15 per cent commission on tolls and \$14 a year on each set of instruments. EARNING FOUR TO SIX PER CENT.

Cross-examined by Mr. Camp Mr. Clark declared that the actual earnings on the telephone business proper for the four years had been \$134,166.44. The actual in vestment, including the Bell company stock for the franchise, had given a return of from 3.77 to 5.58 per

franchise, had given a return of from 3.77 to 5.58 per cent. Including the Bell telephone capital, the per cent had run at 5.38, 5.31, 3.49 to becember 31, 1886, and for the subsequent year on the basis of \$175,000 Bell stock added it was 5.58 per cent.

William N. Estabook, of Emigra, the general manager of the company, was examined as to details of construction. He admitted that there were "lots ofs' kickers'" about rates, but he had never failed to convince a business man of his error. There were "deathcads," too. These in part were numerical authorities as such white no city official had any private privileges. Some twenty-eight radiood companies were appearent deathcads."

"We never calculate that ratiroads shall get ahead of us." said the witness, "for we calculate to even up on freight."

Mr. Clark was recalled by Mr. Camp to say that the total divilends of \$101,000 since the organization of the company, gave an average of 2.42 per cent on the \$1,000,000 since of the company.

The Westebester Telephone Company will be taken up

to Westehester Telephone Company will be taken up NO DANGER OF A COAL FAMINE HERE.

THE STOCK AT TIDEWATER MUCH REDUCED, BUT THE COMPANIES CAN KEEP UP THE SUPPLY.

The stock of anthracite coal at tilewater has been greatly reduced by the usual demand at this season. Officers of the leading companies scout the suggestion that there is any danger of a scarcity in this difficulty under which the companies are laboring at present, but the production is in excess of that last year in spite of the unsettled sirike in the Lengh region. It is estimated that the output for the year will be 2,500,000 tons larger than that last year. The compa nies are working to their full capacity, and although they are not able to supply the tunnediate demand they are confident that there will be enough coal to

twelve years, the orders at the beginning of this month amounted to 100,000 ions. Until these orders are niled are cannot make inneaddate deliveree, but we shall be able to furnish our customers with all the s, at they want if they will not insist meen having a full supply at once. I do think the companies oright to be praised for not advancing the price as they might easily do under the circumstances.

can stances."

Officers of the Reading Reffrond Company said that
there was no danger of a strike by their employees it
consequence of the troubles in the Lehigh region.

ALTERED TREASURY NOTES ABROAD, TWO-DOLLAR SILVER CERTIFICATES THAT HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO FIVES.

The Sub-Treasury received yesterlay from of them, but another came in a package of money from a West Side bank. The name of the bank was kept secret. The changes in the note were well done, but they were not likely to deceive an average examiner. The figure 2 of the same size had been stamped in its place. The word two had been treated in the same way and five substituted. The figures on the back of the note and the smaller ones on both sides had been removed, but no at-tempt had been made to fill their places. In appearance, the notes were worn and shabby, although thay were probably new when the changes were made. The viguette

Cashier Sherer said festeriny; "We do not fear that any of these notes will pass us, but there may be many of them in circulation and we wish simply to call public attention to them. The slightest axa mination will expose the character of the altere ! note."

A COARSE AND BRUTAL " JOKE" STOPPED

THE PRESIDENT OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE ENDS DISGUSTING HORSE-PLAY ABOUT THE ANARCHISTS The hanging of the Chicago Amarchists was an oppor-tunity that the wits of the Stock Exchange could not let pass. They selected as a victim one of the most sensitive ing Committee of the action of some of the wits in interfering with his business. It was rumored, moreover, that at some time the offender had suggested that the Anar chists should be treated with mercy as well as justice. It was declied by the wits that such serious offences de-

F. W. Reimler, the guilty broker, is a specialist in Den ver and the Grante stock. Some reason was invented to call him from his position vesterday and in his absence two red flag and a noise were hing on the post directly over his usual place. One of the flags was inscribed: "Vengcance is inthe, suith the Americat," and the ether bore a sympathetic expression. To avoid possible doubt about the polar of the joke. It Esimier's initially were placed on the second flag. Whether the noise would have been striped over his head and he would have been striped over his head and he would have been string up according to the recognized rules of Judge Lynch is a question which cannot be decided even by those familiar with the sportive fancy of the Stock Exchange, walking across the room, saw the preparation and put an end to them. His prompt action may have prevented a serious accident, for Stock Exchange jokes have resulted in deaths occasionally.

WINTER IS NOT HERE YET.

One snowfall does not make a winter any more that does one swallow a summer. People who looked up their skates and began to make to boggan party "dates" or the strength of the white flakes that whited about the air from a quarter of 12 till ten minutes after 12 yester day, will have to "bide a wee." So, at least, said the Signal Service observer to a Tanana; reporter, adding: "This cold weather won't hast. It will be a little cooler temorrow morning and then gradually get warmer. Winter isn't by any means here yet. It snowed to-day through the lower Lake Regions and in Canda, and probably through the New England States, where it was raining at 7 o'clock this morning. The storm centre yesterday was at Montreal, is now on the New-England coast. There have been heavy rains all along the coast, and high whads. Storm signals are up from Dehaware Bieakwater to Eastport, Me. The slight snow-atorm we have had here was just the tail out of that which passed over the Lake Regions."

TAMMANY MEN WEARIED BY THE CARES OF STATE For several years a number of the leaders of Tammany Hall have left town soon after election and gone to quiet place in Pike County, Penn., to hunt and fish, and thus escape the importunities of "strikers" and others and at the same time get over the fatigues of their political labors. There is no railroad station within ton miles, the read through the woods is a rough one, seldom travelled, and it is doubt'ul if any one unacquainted

with the way could find the party even if he knew generally in what part of the county they were.

The party have called themselves "The Hideaway Club." Among those who started to hide yesterd were County Clerk James A. Flack, Alderman James J Mooney, the chief of the Ollagawallas, and Edward

blooney, the called of the Original members of the club, is not able to go this year, because the duties of his office keep him hers. Fire Commissioner Richard Croker will start this afternoon immediately after the presentation of flags and medals to the fremen. A quiet dinner is given later in Nevember, after the members of the club come back to town.